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Appl. Serial No. 10/700,540
Amendment dated July 18, 2005
Reply to Office Action of April 19, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-6 and 9-18 now stand in the application. Parent claim 1, upon which claims 2-4 and 9-18 depend, has been amended to include the subject matter of cancelled claim 7 and allowable claim 8. Consequently it is believed that all of these claims are now allowable.

Rejected claim 5, upon which claim 6 depends, has been rewritten in independent form. Allowance of this claim as amended is courteously solicited for the following reasons.

According to applicant's invention as recited in amended claim 5, first retaining means are provided for maintaining the crimping drum 8 in a desired position relative to the housing 1 during the crimping operation. More particularly, in accordance with a characterizing feature of the invention best shown in Fig. 3, the die selection wheel 4 is axially displaceable on, and is continuously non-rotatably connected with, the shaft 10 of the crimping drum 8, thereby to permit the die selection wheel to be displaced between locked and released positions relative to the tool housing 1. Thus, by pushing in on the die selection wheel 4 against the biasing force of spring 13, die selection wheel is unlocked from the housing, whereupon the die selection wheel 4 and the crimping drum 8 connected thereto may be rotated to a different position relative to the conductor insertion opening 6. (Page 6, lines 12-24)

Applicant courteously contend that the invention recited in amended claims 5 and 6 is clearly patentably distinguishable from the teachings of the cited prior art. In the cited Shannon patent No. 4,926,685, the die wheel 26 of Fig. 3 is mounted between plates 16 and 18 on a shaft 30 that extends through hexagonal openings 16A and 18A contained in the plates. The shaft has a corresponding hexagonal portion 32, and a cylindrical portion 34. Coil spring 40 biases the shaft 30 upwardly in Fig. 3 to cause the hexagonal portion 32 of the shaft to normally extend through the hexagonal opening 18A, the hexagonal bore 26A of the die wheel 26, and the hexagonal opening 16A in the plate 16. Consequently, both the shaft and the die wheel 26 are initially normally maintained against rotation relative to the plates 16 and 18. Shannon states:

"Thus, when second portion 34 of axle 30 is brought into contact with the hexagonal apertures 16A, 18A and 26A, axle 30 is free to rotate with respect thereto. This allows rotation of die wheel 26 with respect to axle 30 and with respect to first and second jaw plates 16 and 18. Such rotation allows rotational adjustment of die wheel 26

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to expose an edge profile appropriate for the terminal end cable to be crimped together.”
(Column 4, lines 35-42).

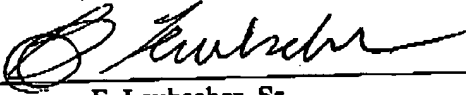
Similarly, in Demler No. 2,762, 414, the die assembly is not connected for continuous non-rotatable displacement relative to the pivot shaft 18. More particularly, the set screw 28 connects the die assembly 16 with the shaft, and a latch 22 holds the die assembly in place.

Since it is courteously believed that all of the amended claims now standing in the application are patentably distinguishable from the cited prior art, it is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Favorable action is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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